

1-1 By: Rodriguez S.B. No. 613  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 11, 2011; February 17, 2011,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human  
1-4 Services; April 11, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;  
1-6 April 11, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 613 By: Rodriguez

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to educational requirements for licensing as a  
1-11 speech-language pathologist or audiologist.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 401.304, Occupations  
1-14 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-15 (a) To be eligible for licensing as a speech-language  
1-16 pathologist or audiologist, an applicant must:

1-17 (1) if the application is for a license in:

1-18 (A) speech-language pathology, possess at least  
1-19 a master's degree with a major in at least one of the areas of  
1-20 communicative sciences or disorders from a program accredited by a  
1-21 national accrediting organization that is approved by the board and  
1-22 recognized by the United States secretary of education under the  
1-23 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Section 1001 et seq.) [~~the~~  
1-24 ~~American Speech-Language-Hearing Association~~] in an accredited or  
1-25 approved college or university; or

1-26 (B) audiology, possess at least a doctoral degree  
1-27 in audiology or a related hearing science from a program accredited  
1-28 by a national accrediting organization that is approved by the  
1-29 board and recognized by the United States secretary of education  
1-30 under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Section 1001 et  
1-31 seq.) in an accredited or approved college or university;

1-32 (2) submit a transcript from a public or private  
1-33 institution of higher learning showing successful completion of  
1-34 course work in amounts set by the board in:

1-35 (A) normal development and use of speech,  
1-36 language, and hearing;

1-37 (B) evaluation, habilitation, and rehabilitation  
1-38 of speech, language, and hearing disorders; and

1-39 (C) related fields that augment the work of  
1-40 clinical practitioners of speech-language pathology and audiology;

1-41 (3) have successfully completed at least 36 semester  
1-42 hours in courses that are acceptable toward a graduate degree by the  
1-43 college or university in which the courses are taken, at least 24 of  
1-44 which must be in the professional area for which the license is  
1-45 requested and at least six of which must be:

1-46 (A) in audiology if the application is for a  
1-47 speech-language pathology license; or

1-48 (B) in speech-language pathology if the  
1-49 application is for an audiology license;

1-50 (4) have completed the minimum number of hours,  
1-51 established by the board, of supervised clinical experience with  
1-52 persons who present a variety of communication disorders; and

1-53 (5) have completed the full-time supervised  
1-54 professional experience, as defined by board rule, in which  
1-55 clinical work has been accomplished in the major professional area  
1-56 for which the license is being sought.

1-57 SECTION 2. (a) Section 401.304, Occupations Code, as  
1-58 amended by this Act, applies only to a person who applies for a  
1-59 speech-language pathologist or audiologist license on or after the  
1-60 effective date of this Act. A person who applies for a license  
1-61 before that date is governed by the law in effect immediately before  
1-62 the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in  
1-63 effect for that purpose.

